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MOTION PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHY UNDER A MICROSCOPE

The film laboratory of the Institute of Experimental Medicine at Leningrad recently presented a film showing objects photographed under high-powered microscopes.

The films illustrated the effect of volatile phytoncides on unicellular and multicellular organisms. Volatile phytoncides have a deadly effect on the causative agents of certain diseases of man and animals.

For the discovery of phytoncides, B. P. Tokin, Doctor of Biological Sciences, was awarded a Stalin Prize. The subject film was prepared by Tokin and V. D. Bystrov, a photographer. It demonstrates the deadly effect of phytoncides of onion on microscopic parasites found in the intestines of a frog, the effect of lemon peel on a microscopic organism called "stylonychia," as well as on hydra, the effect of volatile substances of garlic on fungi, and of mustard on pus bacteria (also the preserving effect of volatile mustard phytoncides on fish). Phytoncides of bird-cherry have a deadly effect on insects (flies).

Prof N. N. Zayko and V. D. Bystrov prepared a new film entitled "Thrombosis" in the above-mentioned laboratory. Until now, physicians and scientists could judge this pathological phenomenon in the blood vessels only with dead preparations, reproducing only one phase of the process. This film illustrates the complete dynamics of the artificially induced thrombosis. To accomplish this, it was necessary to modernize the microscope and set up special filters for eliminating heat rays from illuminating lamps so as to overcome the rapid dehydration of tissues of the experimental animal.

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